

A Chest Compression Device with Electro-Stimulation

00 This application is a continuation of U.S. Application
09/829,859, filed April 9, 2001, ^{now abandoned} which is a continuation of U.S.
Application 09/100,840, filed June 19, 1998, now U.S. Patent
5 6,213,960.

Field of the Inventions

This invention relates to the resuscitation of cardiac
arrest victims.

Background of the Inventions

10 Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) is a well known and
valuable method of first aid. CPR is used to resuscitate people
who have suffered from cardiac arrest after heart attack,
electric shock, chest injury and many other causes. During
cardiac arrest, the heart stops pumping blood, and a person
15 suffering cardiac arrest will soon suffer brain damage from lack
of blood supply to the brain. Thus, CPR requires repetitive
chest compression to squeeze the heart and the thoracic cavity
to pump blood through the body. Very often, the victim is not
breathing, and mouth to mouth artificial respiration or a bag
20 valve mask is used to supply air to the lungs while the chest
compression pumps blood through the body. The methods of
providing oxygenated airflow to the lungs are referred to as
ventilation.

It has been widely noted that CPR and chest compression can
25 save cardiac arrest victims, especially when applied immediately
after cardiac arrest. Chest compression requires that the
person providing chest compression repetitively push down on the